

Background, History & Ownership

Fortis College, Indianapolis, Indiana is owned and operated by Education Affiliates, Inc. Education Affiliates, Inc. is located at 5026-D Campbell Boulevard, Baltimore, Maryland 21236, phone: 410-633-2929 and fax: 410-633-1844 and is a privately held corporation providing career education through a variety of certificate, diploma, and degree programs. Dan Finuf is the President/Chief Executive Officer, and Stephen Budosh is the Chief Financial Officer at Education Affiliates, Inc.

Fortis College, Indianapolis was established in 2009 as a branch campus of Fortis College (formerly Central Florida College) which was located in Winter Park, Florida. Fortis College is located at 9001 Wesleyan Rd, Suite 101, Indianapolis, Indiana 46268.

Effective as of 11/14/2016, Fortis College in Indianapolis, Indiana became a branch campus of Fortis College located at 555 E. Alex-Bell Road, Centerville, Ohio 45459. Founded in 1953, Fortis College in Centerville operated as RETS Tech Center. Education Affiliates purchased RETS Tech Center in October 2005.

Mission and Objectives

Fortis College provides postsecondary career education to both traditional and nontraditional students through a variety of diploma and degree programs that assist adult students in enhancing their career opportunities and improving problem-solving abilities. Fortis College strives to develop within its students the desire for lifelong and continued education. The staff at Fortis College believes that they make an important contribution to the economic growth and social well-being of the area. Fortis College educates its students to help meet the economic needs of their community in entry-level positions. The educational process is a change-oriented approach to education that provides the community with graduates who possess the skills and knowledge needed to succeed in existing and emerging career occupations.

The following goals are integral to the mission of Fortis College:

- To develop each student's individual and professional growth, including written and interpersonal communication, critical thinking, and problem-solving competencies.
- To develop each student's professional attitude and an awareness of contemporary career practices through exposure to pragmatic course content.
- To promote self-discipline and motivation so that students may enjoy success in their careers and society.
- To attract and retain effective and qualified instructors who are familiar with current medical and/or technical practices and who motivate and develop students.
- To offer sound diploma and degree programs.

- To maintain a dynamic organization that is responsible and responsive to its constituencies.
- To minimize economic disadvantages as a barrier to postsecondary education by providing financial aid services and by accepting students without regard to age, sex, religion, race, physical challenges, or economic or social background.
- To assist graduates in finding positions for which they are trained.

Current and Proposed Programs: Fortis College - Indianapolis

Currently, Fortis College- Indianapolis offers four educational programs.

CIP	Program Name	Status	Approval Date
47.0201	Diploma in Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration	Active	7/1/2012
51.0601	Diploma in Dental Assisting	Active	7/1/2012
51.0801	Diploma in Medical Assisting	Active	7/1/2012
51.3801	A.S. in Nursing	Active	7/1/2012

At this time, Education Affiliates has decided to cease enrollment and commence a teach-out of the Nursing program. This decision was made because the Indiana State Board of Nursing placed the Fortis College RN program on Conditional Accreditation status on May 16th, 2024, due to not meeting NCLEX Benchmark requirements for the past four years. Although 100% of our nursing students have passed the NCLEX over the past three quarters, it was not enough to meet the required four-year benchmark. As part of the Conditional Accreditation status our admission enrollments for the program were reduced by fifty percent. It was determined this would cause undue financial hardship for the rest of the college. Fortis College-Indianapolis will teach out the program through March of 2026 and continue to provide all of our current Nursing students an opportunity to graduate.

New Programs

During the 2024-2025 school year, Fortis College plans to apply to offer the following new programs.

- AOS in Medical Laboratory Technology
- Cybersecurity Diploma
- AAS Health Information Management

Long-term Goals of Education Affiliates & Fortis College - Indianapolis

Education Affiliates have outlined the following goals for the next three years.

1. Continue growth by fully utilizing current classroom/campus capacity across existing programs.
2. Roll out currently approved programs into locations that do not currently offer them (transplant programs)
3. Expand new programs offerings (five new programs in various stages of development).

Fortis College - Indianapolis has outlined the following goals as part of their 2024-2025 strategic plan.

1. Continue to grow Dental Assisting, Medical Assisting and HVAC programs by 15-20% total enrollment.
2. Add three new academic/occupational programs over the next 18 months, including Cybersecurity (diploma), AOS in Medical Laboratory Technology, and an AAS in Health Information Management.
3. Improve student services, instructional expertise and advising capabilities for each program to improve current retention and graduation rates. These improvement activities include:
 - a. Development of a comprehensive advising program for each student
 - b. Implementation of monthly professional development regarding effective instructional strategies and implementation in the classroom
 - c. Expansion of the student/staff tutoring program
 - d. Continued implementation of Tech Tuesdays – a program designed for students to receive on-campus assistance with their online courses. Attendance at the start of the term for all new students is mandatory.
 - e. Expansion of the current student food bank for students in financial need.

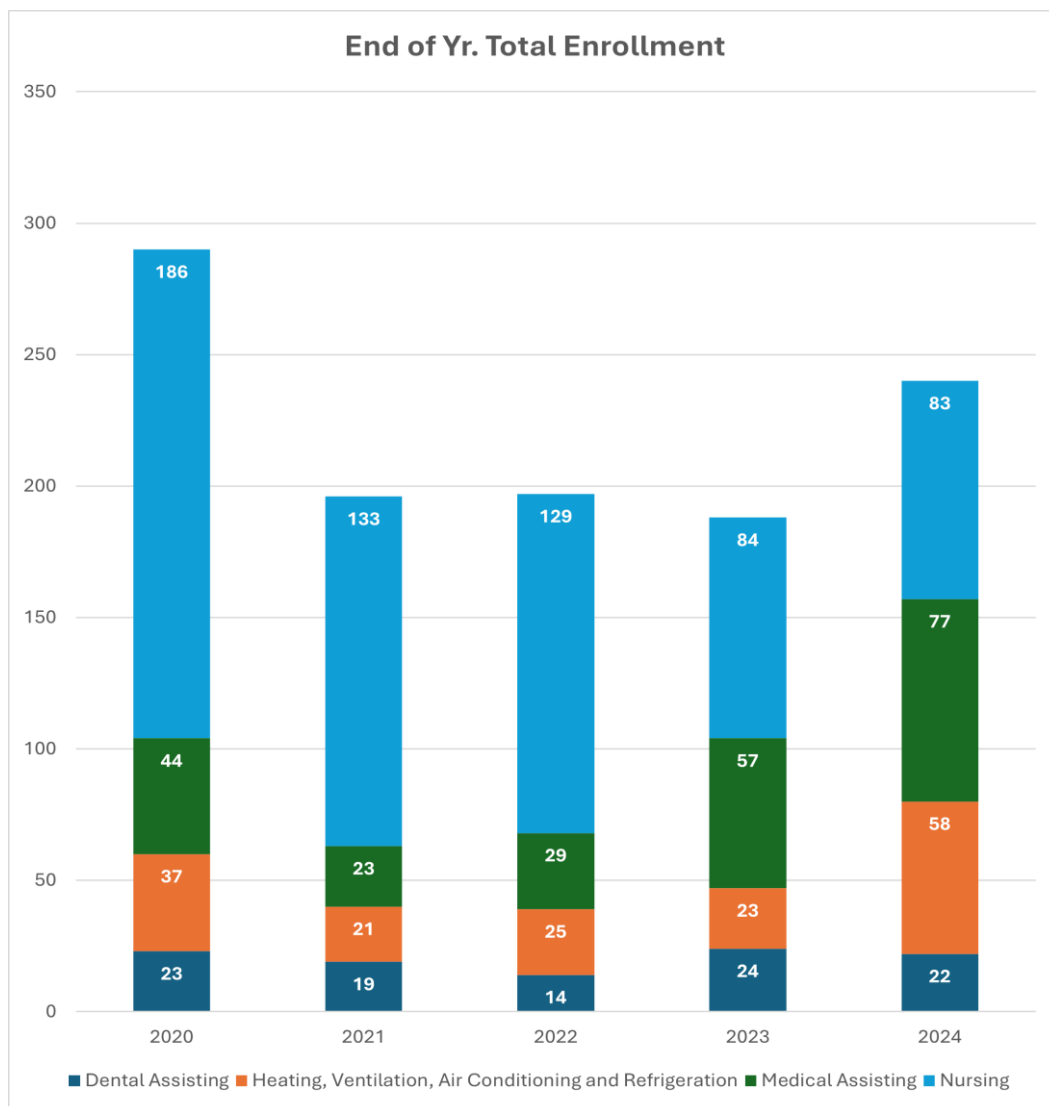
- f. Development a network of employers offering “survival jobs” for current students – employers that work around the student’s school schedule enabling them to stay in school and work as needed.
4. Improve optional certification exam scores in Dental Assisting, Medical Assisting and HVAC programs by 5%.
5. Increase the number of available externship/clinical sites in each program by 10%.
6. Exceed graduation and placement rates as dictated by ACCSC for 2024-2025.

Program Overviews

Enrollment

Like many colleges and universities, the onset of COVID-19 and its related consequences had a negative impact on several campus programs, especially those requiring externships/clinicals, as well as those dependent upon hands-on education. However, over the last year, Fortis College – Indianapolis’ enrollment numbers have increased greatly. This is especially true in our Medical Assisting and HVAC programs (See Table 1)

Table 1: Overview of Enrollment Numbers



Graduation Outcomes

PROGRAM TITLE	PROGRAM LENGTH (in months ACCSC only)	ACCSC Graduation Benchmark	Reported Graduation Annual Rate (2019-2020)	Reported Graduation Annual Rate (2020-2021)	Reported Graduation Annual Rate (2021-2022)	Reported Graduation Annual Rate (2022-2023)	Tracking Graduation Annual Rate (2023-2024) as of July 2024
Dental Assisting	12	55%	55%	55%	64%	64%	64%
Heating , Ventilation, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration	12	50%	61%	63%	82%	61%	54%
Medical Assisting	9	60%	73%	60%	59%	67%	54%
Associate Degree in Nursing	24	40%	40%	50%	24%	31%	21%

Placement Outcomes

PROGRAM TITLE	PROGRAM LENGTH (in months ACCSC only)	ACCSC Placement Benchmark	Reported Placement Annual Rate (2019-2020)	Reported Placement Annual Rate (2020-2021)	Reported Placement Annual Rate (2021-2022)	Reported Placement Annual Rate (2022-2023)	Tracking Placement Annual Rate (2023-2024) as of July 2024
Dental Assisting	12	70%	76%	81%	94%	100%	89%
Heating , Ventilation, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration	12	70%	94%	89%	85%	96%	92%
Medical Assisting	9	70%	95%	92%	86%	93%	86%
Associate Degree in Nursing	24	70%	90%	89%	80%	90%	100%

Program Faculty

The following table lists all of the current faculty on staff at Fortis College – Indianapolis. The growth of the Medical Assisting and HVAC programs has necessitated the need for additional instructional staff.

Nursing		
<i>Name</i>	<i>Role</i>	<i>Length of Service</i>
Shauna Smith	Dean of Nursing	1 year
Deidre Truax	Asst. Dean of Nursing	2.3 year
Leah Carter	Instructor	1.5 year
Paula Carter	Instructor	6 years
Kristi Grumbles	Instructor	3 months
Margaret Broadus	Instructor	1 month
Kay Rowls	Instructor	9 months
Brenda Restivo	Instructor	10 months
Steve Klemme	Instructor	4 years
Medical Assisting		
<i>Name</i>	<i>Role</i>	<i>Length of Service</i>
Lisa Stephens	Program Director	8 years
Erica Rogers	Instructor	1.8 years
Lanaia Hayes	Instructor	9 months
Miyahra Sanders	Instructor	1 month
Dental Assisting		
<i>Name</i>	<i>Role</i>	<i>Length of Service</i>
Mary Rybac	Program Director	1.5 years
TBD		
HVAC		
<i>Name</i>	<i>Role</i>	<i>Length of Service</i>
Chad McCann	Program Director	1.2 years
Chris Fritz	Instructor	10 months
Aaron Dumas	Instructor	3 months
Kyle Parker	Instructor	1 month

Certification Exams by Program

Nursing

As mentioned earlier, while Fortis College – Indpls. program did not meet the four-year benchmark for NCLEX pass rates. The table below lists the pass rates compared to the national mean and one standard deviation below that standard.

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024 (as of July 30, 2024)
Fortis Indianapolis	68.7	65.9	59.3	56.7	58	100*
National Mean	88.3	88.18	86.57	82.48	79.91	TBD
Std. Dev.	68.45	68.4	67.1	62.18	59.92	TBD
1 std. dev. Below	68.45	68.4	67.1	62.18	59.92	TBD

*n = 8

It is important to note that in the last four three quarters of testing, 100% of all Fortis Nursing students have passed the NCLEX.

Diploma Programs

The HVAC, Medical Assisting and Dental Assisting programs all have certification exams that are OPTIONAL and, therefore, are not required reporting for ACCSC. However, the results from the students that opted into the certification exams are below.

Medical Assisting

All Fortis College – Indianapolis Medical Assisting students are offered the opportunity to sit for the CCMA exam through the NHA (National Healthcare Association). Indiana does not require certification for medical assistants.

<i>CCMA testers</i>	<i>Pass</i>	<i>Fail</i>	<i>Pass rate</i>
<i>50</i>	<i>41</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>82%</i>
<i>45</i>	<i>33</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>73%</i>
<i>27</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>67%</i>
<i>23</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>60%</i>
<i>22</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>72%</i>
<i>25</i>	<i>20</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>80%</i>

The national pass rate for this exam is 76%.

Dental Assisting

All Dental Assisting students are given the opportunity to sit for two certification exams, including the DANB Radiation Health and Safety Board and the DANB Infection Control Examination. The results for each are listed in the tables below.

DANB Radiation and Safety Board

Year	Fortis Pass Rate	National Pass Rate
2020	55%	69%
2021	38%	61%
2022	38.5%	61%
2023	62.5%	66%
2024 (As of 7/30/24)	50%	

DANB Infection Control Exam

Year	Fortis Pass Rate	National Pass Rate
2020	21%	76%
2021	7.7%	71%
2022	28.6%	71%
2023	75%	75%
2024 (As of 7/30/24)	75%	TBD

HVAC

All Fortis College – Indianapolis HVAC students are offered the opportunity to sit for the 608 EPA Test sponsored by ESCO. Prior to July 2023, Fortis College – Indianapolis did not track the results of this exam. However, since August 2023, 16 students have taken the 608 EPA Test and 100% of them have passed.

The national pass rate for this exam is 70%.